

WARREN VOLUNTARY HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Minutes of June 23, 2009 Meeting

Warren Town Hall, 2nd Floor

7:00 pm

www.wvhdc.org

Attendees: BG (Ret.) Richard J. Valente , Edward J. Theberge, John DaSilva, Janet O'Brien, Chris Fuller, Patricia Read, Eileen Collins

Location: Planning Board Conference Room, Warren Town Hall

1 - Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Vice Chairman Ed Theberge Presiding

2 - Review of Minutes

a. May 26, 2009

Ms. Collins made a motion to accept the May 26, 2009 Minutes as submitted; seconded by Ms. O'Brien. Motion passed unanimously.

3 - Old Business

Prior to the Financial Report, the secretary informed the committee that applicant Julie Blount had submitted a written schedule of work

completed and work yet to be done at her Wheaton Street home. Ms. Blount said the work outlined in two applications was slated for completion by the end of August. The secretary also told the committee that Ms. Blount planned to submit two new applications at the July 28, 2009 meeting for additional projects.

The information prompted the committee to discuss whether or not Ms. Blount has or will have “maxed out” her tax credits. Mr. Theberge volunteered to review the Ordinance, the WVDHC Rules and Regulations and Ms. Blount’s current applications to determine if the tax credits have been exhausted.

Mr. Theberge reported on the previous evening’s Planning Board Meeting at which Mr. Anthony Rongione sought approval for his plans for a restaurant at 279 Water Street. Mr. Rongione and his architect had appeared before the WVDHC at the May 26, 2009 to seek recommendations to present to the PB.

Mr. Theberge said Mr. Rongione’s presentation had been excellent and that the Planning Board did use the committee’s recommendations, in particular the use of stone in the Dumpster area. He said most of the discussion centered on parking rather than the building itself.

Mr. Theberge also said that at the meeting he met Albert Bilodeau, the owner of a parcel at Town Wharf adjacent to the proposed 279 Water Street restaurant. Mr. Bilodeau gave him his preliminary plans for the property. Those plans include either a restaurant or

retail/office building at the north end of the property and the renovation/addition of the small building fronting Water Street. The committee looked at the plans, but held no discussion and took no action.

a. Financial Report

Mr. DaSilva reported that this month's expenses included a \$100 stipend to the secretary and \$70.94 for materials for informational packets. With the end of FY 2008-2009 days away, the WWHDC is \$4.02 under budget.

b. Status report

Mr. DaSilva presented a full status report which included denied or withdrawn projects. Still open are approved projects from David Weed, Phoebe Murdock, Brian MacDougall and Dana Warren.

4 - New Business

The committee asked the secretary to extend an invitation to an upcoming WWHDC meeting to new Town Manager C. Richard Paduch.

Relayed by Mr. Theberge: General Valente spoke to Council President Frerichs regarding a proposed Ordinance for the preservation of historic stone walls in the Town of Warren.

Per that conversation, committee members were asked if they would like to participate in the project, in particular determining which stone walls are historic. Mr. Theberge and General Valente said they believed that of all town boards and commissions the WVHDC was most qualified for the task. The committee was in favor of participating. The secretary was asked to write a letter to that effect to Mr. Frerichs.

Also discussed was the review and/or editing of the Standards & Guidelines. Ms. Collins suggested a sub-committee workshop. Volunteering to participate were Mr. DaSilva, Mr. Theberge, Ms. Collins and Mr. Fuller. The date for the workshop is Tuesday, June 30, at 7 p.m.

5 - Adjournment

Mr. Fuller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Collins. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.